

SFS Race Report Sat 8th December 2018

by Bob Chapman, 10 Dec 2018.

Photographs by Adrienne Jackson.

Race 9 of the 2018-19 Season and Heat 2 of the Summer Point Score. Typical summer conditions on hand for today's race, the 3rd consecutive day for a NE seabreeze to develop over the prevailing gradient wind. All 8 skiffs rigged for the expected fresh conditions with no.3 main & jib combinations the popular choice while Australia IV opted for a no.4 setup and Scot stayed with same rig they used for last week's race. The run-out tide would also be a factor for consideration. In addition the annual Sail Sydney Regatta was underway to provide a change to the usual pattern of courses and boat traffic using the waterway. A great day to be out on the Rosman spectator ferry.

The race got underway from a handicap start off Double Bay on the no.1 NE course into a building 18kt NE breeze with some very bumpy water courtesy of the run-out tide. Britannia was best away of the 3 limit boats off 15 mins, followed by Top Weight and Tangalooma, then Scot (13), Alruth (12), Australia IV (6) with Yendys just ahead of Aberdare both off scratch. The conditions were as challenging as expected for the first beat to the Beashel Buoy, plenty of wind, waves and boat wash to deal with. Fortunately not the usual number of large keelboats to negotiate replaced by the many dinghy classes from Sail Sydney and their support boats.



Tangalooma was first to round the Beashel Buoy with a comfortable lead for the square run to Shark Island, followed by Britannia, Top Weight, Alruth, Scot, Aberdare and Australia IV. Yendys retired early into the race with a broken bowsprit, while Scot appeared to be suffering from too much sail and Australia IV not enough. Tangalooma did not set a spinnaker for this run, while Britannia had an issue after setting their spinnaker, allowing Top Weight and Alruth to move up a place.



Tangalooma was first to gybe at Shark Island and continued under main & jib down to Clark Island, followed by Top Weight, Alruth, Britannia, Aberdare, Scot and Australia IV. Top Weight gybed their small spinnaker for the 2nd run, Alruth went main & jib, Britannia set a ballooner, Aberdare dropped their peak-head spinnaker to go main & jib.

Top Weight sailed into the lead on the 2nd run and was first to round the bottom mark off Clark Island for the beat to Chowder Bay into a freshening breeze, followed by Tangalooma, Alruth, Britannia, Aberdare, Scot and Australia IV. It was tough going for the skiffs as they punched their way upwind at the high-end of the wind range for their rigs, with Tangalooma moving back into the lead to be first to round at Chowder Bay for the run to Shark Island, followed by Top Weight, Alruth, Britannia, Aberdare and Australia IV, with Scot having retired early on this leg.



Tangalooma ran downwind under main and jib, while Top Weight set their small spinnaker to make up ground and re-gain the lead to gybe first at Shark Island, followed by Tangalooma, Alruth, Aberdare, Britannia and Australia IV. Top Weight enjoyed a fast run under small spinnaker to the finish to score a comfortable win by 2 mins, with a close and exciting finish for the minor places where Aberdare (small spin) claimed 2nd, Alruth (small spin) grabbing 3rd place just before the line from Tangalooma, then Britannia and Australia IV. Well done to all crews, a great race on a challenging day.



With thanks to our on-water support team of Barley, Russell, Leigh, Peter, Adrienne, John, Chuck and Bill, with Ross on the b-b-q, Coral and Margaret running the raffle, Rob and Bentley on the Rosman ferry, along with Angove Wines. We look forward to seeing you down at the Squaddie next week.

Results for Sat 8th December.

Race 9	08-Dec-18		Hcp Start	#1 Course	NE	18-25ts		
Skiff	Skipper	Race Hcap	Start Time	Finish Time	Race Time	H'cap Time	New Hcap	Ring tail
Top Weight	A. Robertson	0:15	14:15:00	15:51:08	1:36:08	1:21:08	14	
Aberdare	J. Winning	0:00	14:30:00	15:53:22	1:23:22	1:23:22	0	
Alruth	J. Tickner	0:12	14:18:00	15:53:47	1:35:47	1:23:47	13	
Tangalooma	J. Lewis	0:15	14:15:00	15:53:51	1:38:51	1:23:51	15	
Britannia	I. Smith	0:15	14:15:00	15:59:11	1:44:11	1:29:11	15	
Australia IV	T. Stewart	0:06	14:24:00	16:09:01	1:45:01	1:39:01	7	
Scot	J. Watt	0:13	14:17:00	DNF			13	
Yendys	R. Brown	0:00	14:30:00	DNF			0	
Myra Too		0:07	DNC				7	
The Mistake		0:07	DNC				7	
Australia		0:06	DNC				6	

Skiff	Season Point Score	Summer Point Score	Ringtail Point Score
Aberdare	40	6	4
Alruth	22	7	0
Australia	0	0	0
Australia IV	33	7	1
Britannia	24	6	7
Myra Too	0	0	0
Scot	26	7	0
Tangalooma	18	4	0
The Mistake	0	0	0
Top Weight	29	8	0
Yendys	15	2	1
